

Amendments to the Specification:

Please add the following new paragraph to page 1, line 3:

-- CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

This is a Divisional of application 10/107,551, filed March 27, 2002, now allowed. --

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 23, line 1, with the following rewritten paragraph:

In some instances, it may be helpful to prepare the photosensitive silver halide grains in the presence of a hydroxytetrazindene (such as 4-hydroxy-6-methyl-1,3,3a,7-tetrazaindene or an N-heterocyclic compound comprising at least one mercapto group (such as 1-phenyl-5-mercaptotetrazole) to provide increased photospeed. Details of this procedure are provided in U.S. Patent 6,413,710 (Shor et al.) ~~depending and commonly assigned U.S. Serial No. 09/833,533 (filed April 12, 2001 by Shor, Zou, Ulrich, and Simpson)~~, that is incorporated herein by reference.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 24, line 12, with the following rewritten paragraph:

In another embodiment, certain substituted and unsubstituted thiourea compounds can be used as chemical sensitizers. Particularly useful tetra-substituted thioureas are described in U.S. Patent 6,368,779 (Lynch et al.) ~~depending and commonly assigned U.S. Serial No. 09/667,748 (filed September 21, 2000 by Lynch, Simpson, Shor, Willett, and Zou)~~, that is incorporated herein by reference.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 24, line 21, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Combinations of gold (3+)-containing compounds and either sulfur- or tellurium-containing compounds are also useful as chemical sensitizers as described in U.S. Patent 6,423,481 (Simpson et al.) ~~depending and commonly~~

~~assigned U.S. Serial No. 09/768,094 (filed January 23, 2001 by Simpson, Shor, and Whitecomb), that is also incorporated herein by reference.~~

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 29, line 8, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Still another useful source of non-photosensitive reducible silver ions in the practice of this invention are the silver dimer compounds that comprise two different silver salts as described in U.S. Patent 6,472,131 (Whitcomb) ~~co~~pend~~ing U.S. Serial No. 09/812,597 (filed March 20, 2001 by Whitecomb), that~~ is incorporated herein by reference. Such non-photosensitive silver dimer compounds comprise two different silver salts, provided that when the two different silver salts comprise straight-chain, saturated hydrocarbon groups as the silver coordinating ligands, those ligands differ by at least 6 carbon atoms.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 34, line 11, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Useful co-developer reducing agents can also be used as described for example, in U.S. Patent 6,387,605 (Lynch et al.) ~~co~~pend~~ing U.S. Serial No. 09/239,182 (filed January 28, 1999 by Lynch and Skoug), incorporated herein by~~ reference. Examples of these compounds include, but are not limited to, 2,5-dioxo-cyclopentane carboxaldehydes, 5-(hydroxymethylene)-2,2-dimethyl-1,3-dioxane-4,6-diones, 5-(hydroxymethylene)-1,3-dialkylbarbituric acids, and 2-(ethoxymethylene)-1H-indene-1,3(2H)-diones.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 44, line 11, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The photothermographic materials of this invention can also include one or more image stabilizing compounds that are usually incorporated in a "backside" layer. Such compounds can include, but are not limited to, phthalazinone and its derivatives, pyridazine and its derivatives, benzoxazine and benzoxazine derivatives, benzothiazine dione and its derivatives, and quinazoline dione and its derivatives, particularly as described in U.S. Patent 6,599,685 (Kong) ~~co~~pend~~ing U.S. Serial No. 10/041,386 (filed January 8, 2002 by Kong).~~

Other useful backside image stabilizers include, but are not limited to, anthracene compounds, coumarin compounds, benzophenone compounds, benzotriazole compounds, naphthalic acid imide compounds, pyrazoline compounds, or compounds described for example, in U.S. Patent 6,465,162 (Kong et al.) ~~co-pending U.S. Serial No. 09/638,788 (filed August 15, 2000 by Kong and Sakizadeh)~~ and GB 1,565,043 (Fuji Photo). All of these patents and patent applications are incorporated herein by reference.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 50, line 4, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Layers to reduce emissions from the film may also be present, including the polymeric barrier layers described in U.S. Patent 6,352,819 (Kenney et al.), U.S. Patent 6,352,820 (Bauer et al.), and U.S. Patent 6,420,102 (Bauer et al.) ~~Serial Number 09/916,366 (filed July 27, 2001 by Bauer, Horeh, Miller, Teegarden, Hunt, and Sakizadeh)~~, all incorporated herein by reference.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 52, line 12, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Particularly useful heat-bleachable backside antihalation compositions can include an infrared radiation absorbing compound such as an oxonol dyes and various other compounds used in combination with a hexaarylbiimidazole (also known as a "HABI"), or mixtures thereof. Such HABI compounds are well known in the art, such as U.S. Patent 4,196,002 (Levinson et al.), U.S. Patent 5,652,091 (Perry et al.), and U.S. Patent 5,672,562 (Perry et al.), all incorporated herein by reference. Examples of such heat-bleachable compositions are described for example in U.S. Patent 6,558,880 (Goswami et al.) ~~co-pending and commonly assigned U.S. Serial No. 09/875,772 (filed June 6, 2001 by Goswami, Ramsden, Zielinski, Baird, Weinstein, Helber, and Lynch)~~ and U.S. Patent 6,514,677 (Ramsden et al.) ~~Serial No. 09/944,573 (filed August 31, 2001 by Ramsden and Baird)~~ both incorporated herein by reference.